



colorado
YOUTH
matter

Strategies for Parent Engagement in Sexuality Education

*Expanding Our Experience and Expertise: Implementing Effective Teenage Pregnancy
Prevention Programs*

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Stefanie Winfield, MSW
Community Evaluation Coordinator
Colorado Youth Matter

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Disclaimer

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GOAL: Increase your capacity to support parent child communication about sexual health.

Objectives:

- Increase knowledge about Raices y Alas (a workshop designed to increase parents' confidence in talking with their children about sexual health topics) as well as other programs and resources for parent child communication.
- Increase skills and knowledge of alternative strategies for involving parents in sexual health education for youth.



Agenda

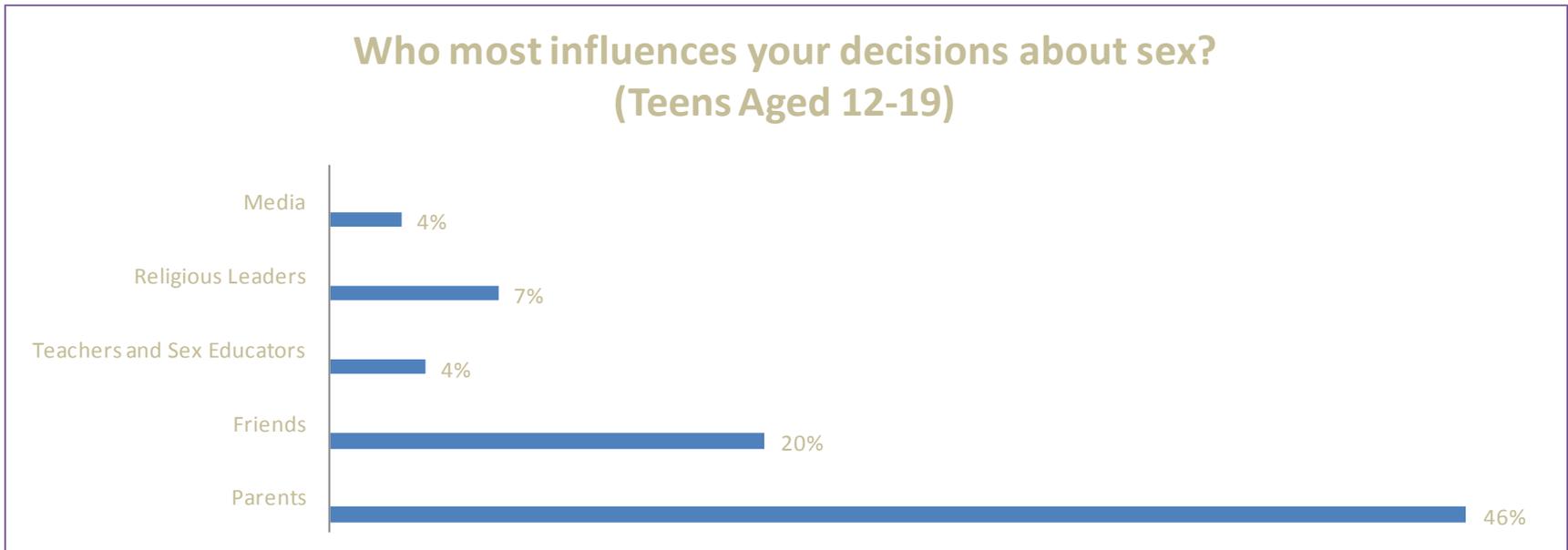
- Welcome and Introductions
- Why Parents Matter
- Strategies and Resources for Parental Involvement
- Raíces y Alas (Roots and Wings) Activities
- Final Questions/Evaluation



Why Parents Matter

Youth Perspective

- Youth report that parents have the greatest influence on their decisions about sex

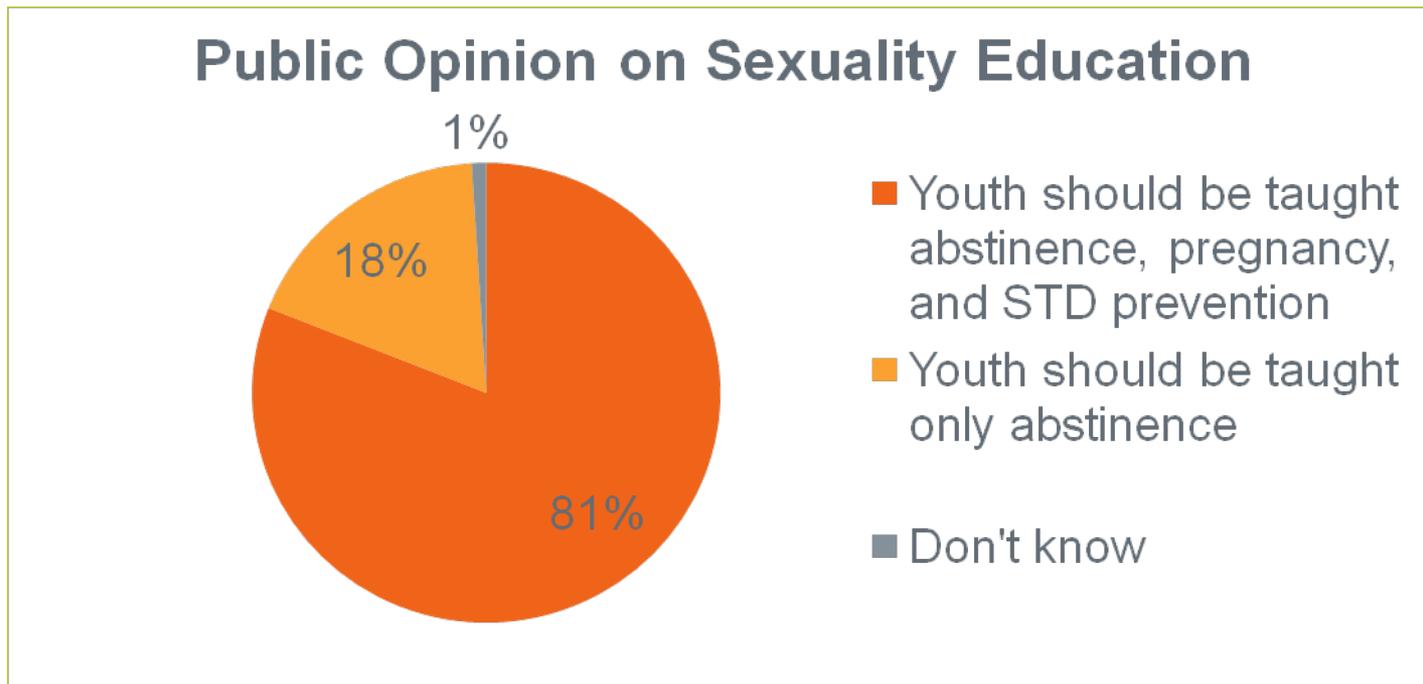


Source: National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, 2007.

Why Parents Matter

Sustainability

- Buy-in from parents is essential for sustaining effective sexuality education programs for youth



Source: The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation/ABC Television, 1998

Why Parents Matter

Behavioral Outcomes

- High levels of “parent connectedness” associated with:
 - Delayed onset of first sexual intercourse
 - Lower overall rates of sexual activity
 - Higher rates of contraceptive use

Source: Emerging Answers 2007, The National Campaign

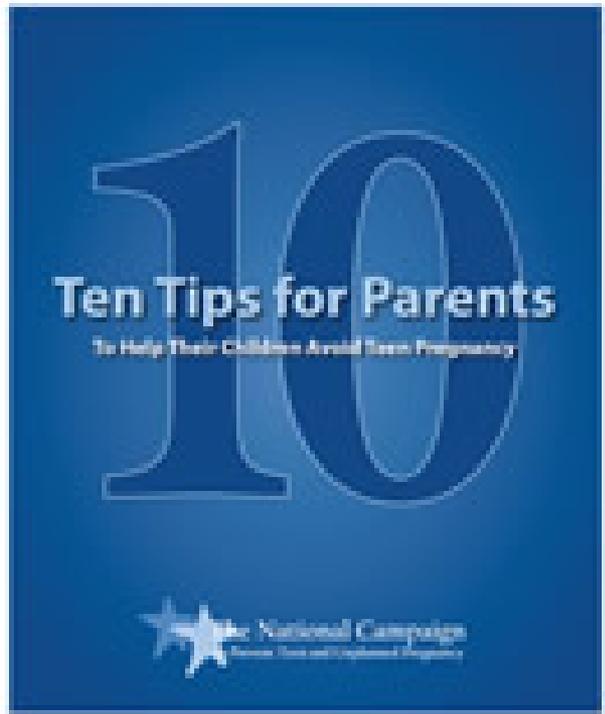


Parent Involvement Strategies



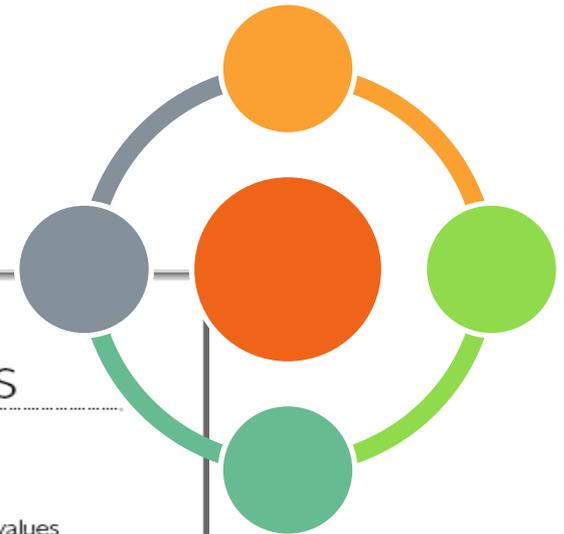
Parent Involvement Strategies

Videos and Written Materials



Parent Involvement Strategies

Sexuality Education Homework



CONDOM VALUES: AN INTERVIEW WITH YOUR PARENTS

INSTRUCTIONS

Using these questions as a guide, interview one or both parents/guardians about their beliefs and values about condoms and condom use. Write their answers below. You will not have to hand in this assignment, or share it with the class. You will, however, discuss aspects of the interview process in class. You will find it helpful to have the answers available during class discussion.

"This is a homework assignment from _____ class. The topics will remain confidential. They will not be reported in class. You must, however, sign a declaration stating that we completed the assignment together."

1. When you were growing up, what messages did you receive about condoms?
2. Were your values different from (similar to) your parents'/guardians'? How?
3. There are no age restrictions for buying condoms. Do you think this is a good idea?
At what age do you think people should be allowed to purchase condoms?
4. What is your opinion about teenagers learning in school how to use a condom?



Parent Involvement Strategies

Family Activities/Events

- Student presentations or skits
- Awards/graduation ceremonies
- Social events—picnics, holiday celebrations, open houses
- Volunteer activities
- Health fairs



Parent Involvement Strategies

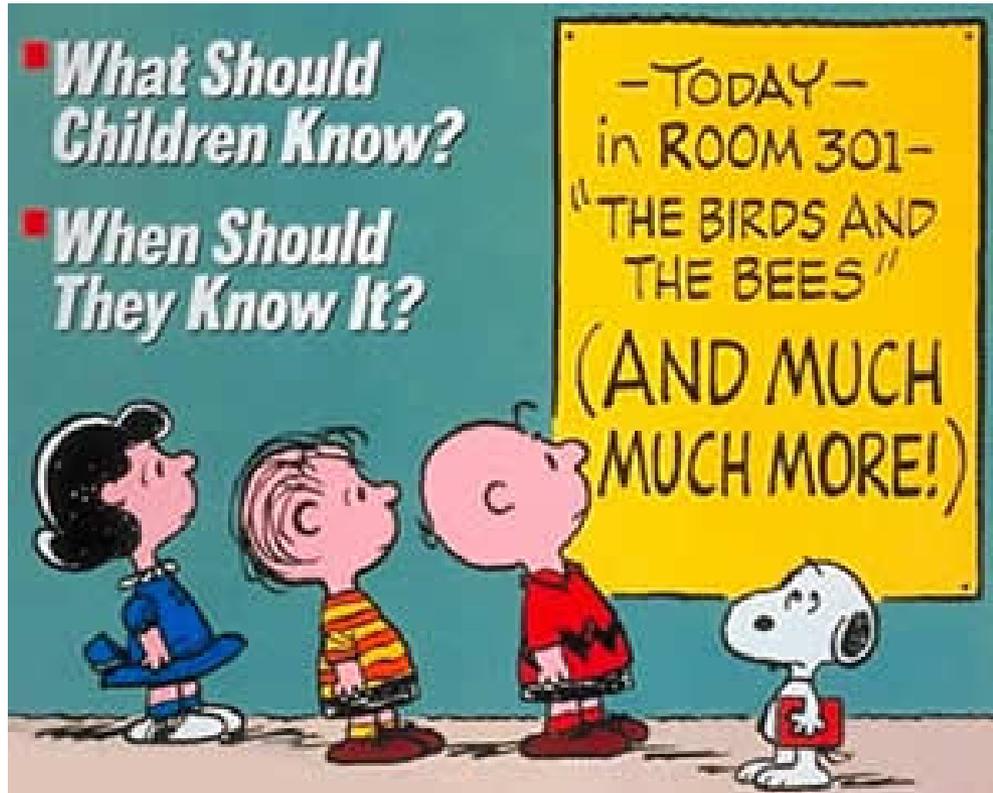
Parent Groups/Advisory Councils



- Parent-led with support from facilitator in organization
- Usually involves parent-to-parent outreach

Parent Involvement Strategies

Workshops/Meetings



Parent Involvement Strategies

Multi-Session Programs

- For parents only or for parents/adolescents together



EXAMPLE: Children's Aid Society Carrera Model – combined with Parent Family Life Sex Education Program

Parent Involvement Strategies

Choosing a Strategy

- Needs Assessment
- Values
- Organizational Capacity
- Goals and Objectives
- Existing Programs and Community Initiatives



Group Action Planning Activity

- Mapping out a plan:
 - What are your goals?
 - What strategy or strategies would you use?
How would you combine strategies?
 - What recruitment strategies might you use?
 - What challenges do you think you might face implementing this strategy?
 - How might you overcome these challenges?

Parent Involvement Strategies

Comments

- Important to develop an action plan
- Barriers to parental involvement
- Parental involvement as an “add-on”
- Questions?



Parent Involvement Strategies

- Keeping it R.E.A.L.
- Focus on Youth with Informed Parents and Children Together (ImPACT)
- Parents Matter!
- Talk Early, Talk Often
- Plain Talk
- Can we talk? Conversamos
- Others?



Raíces y Alas (Roots and Wings) Background and Overview



- Values and beliefs
- How it was developed
- Target beneficiaries
- Materials needed
- Language

Section 2: The Statistics Game

Activities	Time	Materials Needed
•The Statistics Game	15 minutes	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Flipchart paper with pre-written statements for the Statistics Game2. Notecards with pre-written answers3. Markers4. Masking Tape

Raíces y Alas (Roots and Wings)

Section 6: I Wish Someone Had Told Me

Activities	Time	Materials Needed
• I Wish Someone Had Told Me	10 minutes	1. Parent Packet: I Wish Someone Had Told Me Sheet



Thank you!

- Questions?
- www.coloradoyouthmatter.org
- swinfield@coloradoyouthmatter.org
- Evaluations



References

- Ikramullah, E., Manlove, J., Cui, C. & Moore, K.A. (2009). *Parents matter: the role of parents in teens' decisions about sex*. Washington, DC: Child Trends.
- Kirby, Douglas, PH.D. Emerging Answers 2007. The National Campaign.
- Vidourek, R.A., Bernard, A.L., & King, K.A. (2009). Effective parent connectedness components in sexuality education interventions for African American youth: a review of the literature. *American Journal of Sexuality Education, 4*, 225-247.
- Terms of Engagement
- *Big intervention report*

